

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 115974

72

ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/BC/B:MWCOTTER/JEKARKASHIAN:BDT

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S/S: WHLUERS

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R 032054Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

S E C R E T STATE 115974

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

SUBJECT:GOB INTEREST IN PURCHASING TANKS

REF: A) STATE 110568; B) LA PAZ 3430

1. P&A DATA BEING GATHERED AND WILL BE TRANSMITTED ASAP.
2. STATEMENT IN PARA. THREE, REFTEL B, ASSUMES THAT M-48 IS NOT A "VIABLE ALTERNATIVE" TO SOVIET T-55 TANK. AS INDICATED IN REFTEL A, WE DO NOT REGARD ANY MEDIUM TANK TO BE MOST APPROPRIATE WEAPON SYSTEM FOR BOLIVIA. HOWEVER, SINCE GOB HAS STATED INTENTION TO USE TANKS FOR "INTERNAL SECURITY", WE FAIL TO SEE WHY 52 TON US MEDIUM TANK WITH 90 MM GUN IS ANY LESS SUITABLE FOR INTERNAL SECURITY ROLE IN BOLIVIA THAN 40 TON SOVIET MEDIUM TANK WITH 100MM GUN.
3. EMBASSY SHOULD ENSURE THAT APPROPRIATE BOLIVIAN AUTHORITIES CLEARLY UNDERSTAND AND HAVE NO ILLUSIONS CONCERNING FIRM USG OFFER TO MAKE AVAILABLE WHAT WE REGARD TO BE SUITABLE ALTERNATIVE TO SOVIET T-55. KISSINGER

SECRET

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROCUREMENT, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, TANKS (COMBAT VEHICLES), MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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